

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 L-02 FRB-03 OMB-01

TAR-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-01 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1240

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRC, ETRN, AF

SUBJ: UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON COMMODITIES MEETING:

AFGHAN GOVERNMENT PRESENTATION

REF: STATE 243648, DTD 5 NOV 74

1. AFGHAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO SUBJECT CONFERENCE IN DAKAR, SENEGAL IS HEADED BY MINISTER OF COMMERCE MOHAMMAD KHAN JALALLAR. ACCORDING TO MINCOMMERCE OFFICIAL, AFGHAN GOVERNMENT POSITION PAPER TO BE DELIVERED AT CONFERENCE REFLECTS A VARIATION OF RAOUL PREBISCH THESIS ON DETERIORATING TERMS OF TRADE FOR RAW MATERIALS PRODUCING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES.

2. MINISTER JALALLAR IS ARMED WITH FIGURES PREDICING A 65 MILLION DOLLAR TRADE DEFICIT IN THE AFGHAN YEAR 1354 ENDING MARCH 20, 1976. THIS DEFICIT IS, TO A LARGE EXTENT, CAUSED BY RISING PRICES FOR INDUSTRIAL IMPORTS SIMULTANEOUS WITH FALLING PRICES FOR AFGHANISTAN'S RAW MATERIALS EXPORTS. IF AFGHANISTAN'S TERMS OF TRADE WERE CALCULATED IN CONSTANT PRICES (CY 1971),

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THERE WOULD BE A SMALL SURPLUS IN AFGHANISTAN'S TRADE

BALANCE FOR AFGHAN YEAR 1354.

3. OTHER PORTIONS OF MINISTER JALALLAR'S PRESENTATION
NOT RPT NOT KNOWN BUT PRESUME IT MAY INCLUDE SOME REFERENCE
TO AFGHANISTAN'S GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION AS LAND-LOCKED
COUNTRY DEPENDENT ON OTHERS FOR ITS TRADE TRANSPORTATION
ROUTES.
ELIOT

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